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Lend a Hand

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The Rotary Fountain, Downtown Beaumont

Photo by Mark Low Imagery

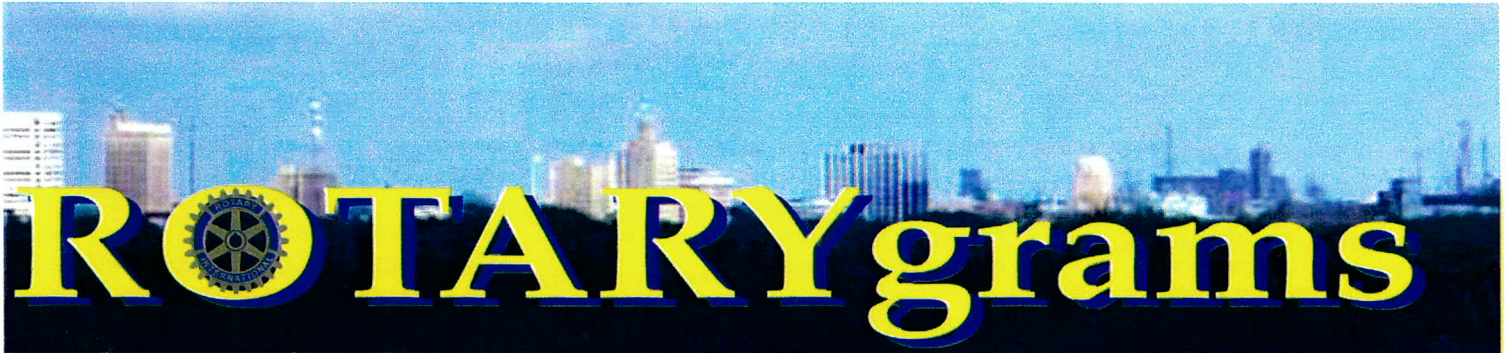


Photo by Steve Buser

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Dan Ford- Salvation Army



Dan is a native of Baltimore, Maryland, but has been in the south for 26 years. After working 8 years as a Merchant Seaman in the Gulf of Mexico, Dan found The Salvation Army and was

attracted to its ministry for the less fortunate. After completing a 2-year seminary program at the College for Officer Training in Atlanta, Dan was assigned to Shreveport, Louisiana as Assistant Corps Officer.

Dan met his wife, Alba on disaster work in Guadalajara, Mexico in 1992. Though a native of Costa Rica, she was serving on the staff of the College for Officer

Training in Mexico at the time and was on the scene leading a group of Cadets in training. Dan and Alba have led The Salvation Army services in Natchez, Mississippi, Lake Charles, Louisiana, Gulfport, Louisiana, Plano, Texas and now Beaumont.

Dan & Alba have two children, Ariel (8) and Dylan (3).



TEXAS PLEDGE

Honor the Texas flag
 I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas
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Head Table



INVOCATION
PEG TOWERS



PLEDGE
PHIL DUNLAP



4-WAY TEST
JEFF DYSON



GUEST INTRODUCTION
JIM BROUSSARD

From the chef: Spaghetti w/ meat sauce



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Meets Wednesdays at Noon
Beaumont Hilton • International Ballroom

Future Programs

May
26th Barry Kaplan "Marketing Yourself"
June
2nd No meeting

Make-ups

Monday:

No. Port ArthurHoliday Inn Hwy 69
Vidor.....Hibernia National Bank

Tuesday:

Spindletop.....Holiday Inn 11th St.
Orange.....Sunset Grove
Port Neches.....Pompano Club

Wednesday:

Groves.....Pompano Club

Thursday:

Port Arthur.....Holiday Inn Hwy 69

Friday:

Nederland.....Sanderson's

On-line: www.rotary5450.org/eclub
(limit 3 times in each quarter)

Program Review

The new superintendent at the Big Thicket National Preserve, Art Hutchinson presented a very credible scenario that the biggest tourist attraction for Beaumont and Southeast Texas is the Big Thicket Preserve.

The personable Hutchinson gave a thumbnail history of the National Park Service and its struggle to preserve and protect lands designated for public parks. The Ranger hat he displayed, but did not wear, came from the military influence because the U.S. Army managed the NPS for forty years. Smokey Bear still wears it.

Art showed a short video depicting "every child's dream" with beautiful scenes of national parks and preserves showing wild animals, waterfalls, rivers, rock formations, etc. which were reminders of the past and barometers of the future. The elementary message being one earth; one sky; one world and one life.

The job at Big Thicket Preserve will be a challenge to the future...too many

people do not know enough about the Preserve...only a bunch of trees on the outskirts of Beaumont is the thought a number of us have. It's his job to change that image. He wants to show its tremendous potential for attracting visitors to this area. Right now, birders come from all over the world to bird watch and to enjoy the unique ecosystem that exists on our doorstep.

The Park had 98,000 visitors last year who spent \$5.89 million, and applying the visitor multiplier formula, you realize \$7.5 million to the local economy. There is a state-of-the-art museum attached to the Big Thicket Preserve. Soon there will be a public meeting to gather ideas for making the Preserve even better.

Hutchinson says, "It is a great place to be and my challenge is to make the Big Thicket Preserve better known nationally".

We wish to thank **Bessie Chisum** for arranging the program and **Larry Beaulieu** for providing and operating the video equipment.

Rotarians in the News

Sina Nejad was named the 2004 Small Business Person of the Year by the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce. He is the owner of Sigma Engineering and a graduate of Lamar University. Sina has been a member of our club since 1995.

Jim Rich, the Chamber's President, said the award is presented during National Small Business Week annually.

Several Rotarians were honored in the *Beaumont Enterprise's* recently published 14th Annual Reader's Choice Awards. In the "unscientific" survey, readers are invited to cast their ballots for their favorites in several categories. Our winners are:

Appliances

Conn'sC.W. Conn, Jr.

Floor Covering

Porter's FlooringLarry Porter

Hardware

M&D SupplyJeff Dyson

Motorcycle Dealer

Cowboy HarleyLinda Moore

Bank

Texas State Bank Pat Parsons

Collision Repair

Collision & Classics. Gerald Condon

Dry Cleaner

Munro's.....Chad Blanchard

Entertainment Facility &

Softball Complex

Ford Park.....Roger Newton

Heating & Air Conditioning Repair

Efficient Systems..... Mike Ireland

(Continued on page 3)

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Konica TOSHIBA SHARP

New Members

Please welcome these new members who were inducted into the club on May 12th:



Luther Dobbins is the Executive Director of the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club and his classification is "Religion - Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club". He is sponsored by **Dan Ford**.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, he is a graduate of the University of Missouri and Yankton College. He and his wife Josette are the parents of Brad, Austin, Devin and Aron.



David Holstead is a Business Banker at Wells Fargo Bank and his classification is "Finance - Interstate Banking". He is sponsored by **Steve Lucas**.

A native of Port Arthur, he is a graduate of Lamar University. He and his wife Reva are the parents of Theresa and Karen, and are members of Wesley United Methodist Church. He enjoys hunting, travel and antiques.

News from Chile

Hello from Chile, everyone! Last night around midnight as I was sound asleep there was an earthquake...the strongest that they've had here in 30 years! It was the strangest feeling! I don't know how to describe it-it wasn't like a vibration, the earth was actually moving, but so quickly that it was really a strange feeling!

I don't know what it is about me...when I lived in Ecuador, the volcano beside the town I was in became extremely active right after I came along, and now that I come to Chile the earthquakes have started up! Ah well, never a dull moment.

Un beso, Beth
Our Ambassadorial Scholar



Paula Nichols is the Director of Distance Education at Lamar University and her classification is "Lamar University - Distance Education". She is sponsored by **Richard Bothel**.

A native of Houston, she is a graduate of Baylor University and the University of Houston. She and her husband Kenneth are the parents of Bart, Adam, Neal and Luke, and are members of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. She enjoys playing the piano and organ and growing roses.



Jeff Oliverio is Assistant Vice President & Resource Manager at Hibernia National Bank and his classification is "Trust Banking - Sales". He is sponsored by **John Quigley**.

A native of Washington, D.C., he is a graduate of St. Meinard College in Indiana. He and his wife Mandy (daughter of Andy and **John**) are the parents of John and Mary Katherine, and recently moved to Beaumont from Tennessee. He enjoys playing golf and fishing.

(Continued from page 2)

- Home Remodeling**
Carter & Company..... **Mike Carter**
Interior Decorator
Ethan Allen **Sharen Kirksey**
Liquid Waste Hauler
J&R Recycling ... **Candace Broucher**
Pest Control
Bill Clark Pest Control **Bill Clark**
Radio Station
KCOL 92.5 **Vesta Brandt**
Television Station
KFDM Channel 6 **Larry Beaulieu**
Assisted Living/Retirement Community
Collier Park **Becky Ames**

Congratulations to all of you!

Birthdays

21st Brad Brown (93)
Principal,
Edgar Kiker & Cross, PC



Born in Jennings, Louisiana, he is a graduate of Lamar University. He and his wife Melanie are the parents of Austin, Ashley and Aaron, and are member of Calvary Baptist Church. He enjoys playing golf, being active in church activities and childrearing.

21st Bob Harris, Sr. (81)
Retired,
Metropolitan Insurance Company



Born in Urbana, Ohio, he is a graduate of Florida State University. He and his wife Liz are the parents of Robert, Cynthia, and James, and are members of Trinity United Methodist Church. He enjoys playing bridge and golf. Bob is a Paul Harris Fellow.

24th Wayne Holland
Vice President,
Hibernia National Bank



Born in Kountze, he is a graduate of Lamar University. He and his wife Ann are the parents of Lauren and William and are members of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. He enjoys playing golf and softball and reading.

25th Tommy Hebert, Jr. (88)
Retired,
Lower Neches Valley Authority



Born in Port Arthur, he attended Lamar University and is a graduate of North Texas State University. He and his wife Ange are the parents of Sheryl and Teresa, and are members of Wesley United Methodist Church. He enjoys growing roses, hunting, fishing, travel and woodworking.

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Program Spotlight: Orthopedic Rehab
Program Director - Juan Davila, M.D.